



**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A cylindrical ring sized to slide over the box end of an oilfield tubular having a given external diameter, has a shoulder at one its ends and a sidewall along its length. The sidewall has a circumferential groove about its interior surface housing a band which can be made tight  
5 against the exterior surface of the oilfield tubular by a latch, accessible through a slot in the sidewall, and which becomes even tighter if the tubular attempts to escape from the band. In a first orientation, the cylindrical ring is used as a load ring. By turning the cylindrical ring upside down, the cylindrical ring is used as a thread protector for the pin end of the tubular.